Directors, National Highways Authority of India officials at Headquarters.

(ii) State Governments have appointed Senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the National Highways Development Project such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest/pollution/environment clearances etc.

(iii) A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted to address inter-ministerial and Central-States issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of Road Over Bridges etc.

(iv) To expedite the construction of Road Over Bridges, an officer of the Railways has been posted to National Highways Authority of India to coordinate with the Railways. Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with M/s IRCON International Limited.

Congestion on roads

3256. PROF. SAIF-DU-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is a lot of congestion on roads in Delhi and other major cities in India; and

(b) if so, whether Government would make a comprehensive scheme to strengthen and popularize Public Transport in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Urban transport, being a part of urban development is a State subject and therefore, the issues such as congestion on roads in urban areas require to be suitably addressed by the concerned State Governments. However, with a view to providing an overall policy framework as well as a comprehensive approach to matters releating to urban transportation and to guide the financial assistance of the Central Government in this field, the Ministry of Urban Development has formulated a Draft National Policy on Urban Transport. The key focus of the policy is to encourage public transport and

non-motorised transport so that the dependence on personal motor vehicles is reduced.

Conversion of vehicles into CNG/LPG

3257. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the conditions governing the nature, type, make and capacity of private and commercial vehicles registered in Delhi that can be converted into CNG/LPG;

(b) the basis for such conditions and the objectives behind it; and

- (c) the formalities required to be completed under Motor Vehicles Act for converting a private vehicle into CNG/LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) An 'in-use' vehicle can be converted into CNG/LPG mode, subject to the condition that the vehicle meets the safety and emission norms prescribed under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The underlying objective is that the vehicle so converted is safe and environmentally friendly.

(c) After conversion, the registration certificate of the vehicle would need to be endorsed by the concerned registering authority.

Limit of investment in SSI

†3258. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the limit for capital investment in small scale units under small scale sector is Rupees one crore at present;

(b) whether a proposal is being considered to raise the said limit to five crores;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.